

# HISTORY OF CHEMICAL DEMILITARIZATION IN COLORADO



**1950s**—Pueblo Army Depot begins storage of chemical weapons containing mustard agent.

**1986**—Public law designates the U.S. Army responsible for the destruction of the U.S. chemical weapons stockpile.

**1993**—Citizens' Advisory Commissions are created for each stockpile site in the country.

**1996**—September. Pueblo Chemical Depot Community Outreach Office opens. Congress establishes Assembled Chemical Weapons Assessment (ACWA) Program to identify and demonstrate alternatives to incineration.



**April**—The United States ratifies the Chemical Weapons Convention treaty, which directs all member nations to destroy their chemical weapons and production facilities.

**May**—ACWA begins public participation process known as the ACWA Dialogue.

1997



**March**—Final Environmental Impact Statement is issued for Colorado.

**June**—Working Groups, as part of the Colorado Chemical Demilitarization Citizens' Advisory Commission, are established to provide feedback on the chemical weapons destruction project.

**July**—Department of Defense selects neutralization followed by biotreatment as the official destruction method for the Colorado stockpile.

**September**—The Bechtel Pueblo Team is awarded a contract to design, build and operate the pilot facility.

2002



**July**—Community submits recommendations on acceleration options.

**September**—ACWA accepts and incorporates community recommendations.

2003



**July/August**—Resource Conservation and Recovery Act permit is issued by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. Certificate of Designation is issued by Pueblo County. Site civil work can begin.

**September**—Pueblo Chemical Agent- Destruction Pilot Plant Groundbreaking Open House for Stage One construction is held. Design of processing facilities is suspended while cost reduction measures are evaluated.

2004



**January**—Stage One construction is suspended while cost reduction measures are evaluated.

**March**—Design and construction restart. ACWA is directed to reduce life-cycle cost.

**April**—ACWA and Bechtel Pueblo Team start public involvement process for cost-reduction design options.

2005